Eliot Greenwald

From: Diane Bomar [diane.aleman@att.net]

Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2012 12:09 AM

To: Eliot Greenwald

Subject: please do NOT approve a waiver from NCTA

Hello
My name is Diane Bomar. I am totally blind, and, like most Americans, pay for cable TV, including many services that I cannot use. I beg you NOT to approve the waiver that would delay cable providers implementation of accessible set top boxes. I have only read a small part of the request, but it is too aggregious to complete. Video is not just visual, it is also audio. Set top boxes with digital or fiber optic connections can easily be connected to an audio device with no television. It is misleading to suppose that because of the word "vision" in the word "television" that blind people do not need to use it. We are parents, business owners, employees of large and small businesses both public and private, taxpayers, and pay for cable television, even though we cannot use many of the features. For instance, I would love to be able to read the menus on the screen that are accessed through the cable box remote. Recent improvements in technologies, that benefit everyone have made it possible to add accessibility for blind and visually users, at minor expense. Apple has demonstrated this on its iPhone, and other devices.

The technology advancements that are currently being developed, and referred to in the NCTA request, must include accessibility. The fact that they are using this development as an excuse, is obscene. It is like sayint that we need to add more floors to the building, before putting in an elevator.

The access technology is available, it doesn't need to be developed. The cable operators and set-top box manufacturers, just need to put the access in the box, sooner than later. 2016 is almost four years away! That is more than enough time, to have this done! Please don't make us wait for universal access any longer than the current bill requires.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue,
Diane Bomar
(303) 339-0575